

II.3 COMMENTS AND RESPONSES: ELECTED OFFICIALS

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The master responses provided in Section II.2, *Master Responses, MR-1 through MR-8*, address similar comments received from multiple commenters on the Draft Supplemental EIR and, therefore, many individual responses to comments refer back to the master responses. These Master Responses are:

- MR-1, Scope of the Commission's Discretionary Action
- MR-2, Lease Modification Project Scope
- MR-3, Responsible Vs. Lead Agency & Supplemental Vs. Subsequent EIR
- MR-4, Piecemealing
- MR-5, Diffuser Entrainment Mortality and Species Affected
- MR-6, Marine Protected Areas
- MR-7, Cumulative Impacts
- MR-8, Alternatives

II.3.1 Comment Set E1: Huntington Beach Mayor Barbara Delgleize



City of Huntington Beach

2000 MAIN STREET

Barbara Delgleize
Mayor

CALIFORNIA 92648

July 14, 2017

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Chair, California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Ave., Suite 100 South
Sacramento, CA 95825-8202

RE: SUPPORT for Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project Supplemental EIR & Land Lease Agreement

Dear Chair Newsom,

I am writing to request that the State Lands Commission certifies the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the proposed Seawater Desalination Project in Huntington Beach and approves the land lease agreement with Poseidon Water so that the project may continue through the state approval process.

The city of Huntington Beach remains supportive of the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project because it would address long-term water supply and reliability needs, as well as provide economic and societal benefits locally and throughout Orange County. The project is an investment in our future that is supported by an overwhelming number of Huntington Beach residents and others countywide.

Having a local facility capable of producing 50 million gallons per day of potable water would provide Orange County with an increased level of water reliability that would help to reduce our dependence on imported water and protect our interests should those water deliveries from hundreds of miles away ever be disrupted for an extended period of time.

Additionally, the desalination facility would generate millions of dollars per year in property tax that will help support schools, the provision of municipal services, community investments, and environmental protections. It will also generate hundreds of thousands of dollars per year in sales and local taxes. The project will also involve several hundred million dollars for construction and the creation of 3,000 jobs. It will also create dozens of high-paying direct and indirect full-time jobs once the facility is operating.

The State Lands Commission certified the project EIR seven years ago and it should do the same with the SEIR when it comes before the Commission on August 17, 2017. The proposed design modifications that include the 1mm wedgewire screening on the intake pipeline and brine diffuser on the outfall pipeline would make the project even more environmentally protective than it was in 2010. While this benefits our coastline and marine environment, overall, it is also important to note that there are no threatened or endangered species or kelp beds within the vicinity of the intake and outfall pipelines and the project, itself, would not be located in a Marine Life Protected Area or Area of Special Biological Significance and there are no anticipated impacts to areas designated as such.

I respectfully request the State Lands Commission's favorable consideration and certification of the SEIR and the approval of the land lease with Poseidon Water when this matter comes before the Commission on August 17, 2017.

Respectfully,

Barbara Delgleize
Mayor

E1-1

**COMMENT SET E1: CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH MAYOR
BARBARA DELGLEIZE (cont.)**

cc:

Commissioner/State Controller Betty Yee
Commissioner / Finance Director Michael Cohen
Ms. Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer, State Lands Commission
Alexandra Borack, Project Manager, State Lands Commission
Governor Jerry Brown
Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon
Senate President Pro Tem Kevin De Leon
U.S. Representative Dana Rohrabacher
State Senator Patricia Bates
State Senator Tony Mendoza
State Senator John Moorlach
State Senator Josh Newman
State Senator Janet Nguyen
State Assemblyman Travis Allen
State Assemblyman Bill Brough
State Assemblyman Phillip Chen
State Assemblyman Steven Choi
State Assemblyman Tom Daly
State Assemblyman Matt Harper
State Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva

**RESPONSE TO COMMENT SET E1:
CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH MAYOR BARBARA DELGLEIZE**

- E1-1 The commenter's expression of support for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project and request for the California State Lands Commission (Commission or CSLC) to certify the Supplemental EIR and approve a lease agreement with Poseidon Water (referred to in this Supplemental EIR as the proposed Lease Modification Project) will be provided to the Commission for consideration in its decision-making process concerning Poseidon's application to amend lease PRC 1980.1. As noted in Part I, *Preface*, and master response MR-1, *Scope of the Commission's Discretionary Action*, the Commission approved the portions of the Huntington Beach Desalination Plant Project within its jurisdiction in October 2010 (i.e., use of the Huntington Beach Generating Station subsea intake and discharge pipelines for desalination operations; see [Item 62](#), October 29, 2010) and its consideration now applies only to Poseidon's proposed modifications to these offshore pipelines.

II.3.2 Comment Set E2: City of Huntington Beach Councilman and Mayor Pro Tem Michael Posey

July 21, 2017

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Lieutenant Governor
Chairman, California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Ave., Suite 100 South
Sacramento, CA 95825-8202

Dear Chairman Newsom,

As a Huntington Beach City Councilman, protecting the quality of life of the residents of Surf City and ensuring the environmental protection of our seaside community is paramount. I have followed the regulatory process for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination facility for more than a decade and I am pleased to write to you to ask you to certify the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) and approve the lease amendment.

I was pleased to see that the State Lands Commission staff determined that the improvements proposed by Poseidon since their last SLC approval have further reduced the environmental impacts of the project, which were negligible to begin with.

There is no evidence that the low-flow intake and discharge has any significant impact on marine life. The project as proposed will produce the same amount of drinking water – 50 million gallons per day – while using 30% less seawater, making this project environmentally superior to the one previously approved by the SLC.

There may be temporary environmental impacts during construction, but nothing that can't be mitigated. This is a project that will not only produce a new water supply for Huntington Beach at a cost that is below what we are currently paying for imported water, but it will also produce a long-term and stable revenue stream of tax revenue to our City and jobs for our residents.

We've waited long enough for this project to be built. I encourage you to approve the lease amendment and certify the DSEIR.

Sincerely,



Mike Posey
Mayor Pro Tem
City of Huntington Beach

E2-1

**COMMENT SET E2: CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH COUNCILMAN AND MAYOR
PRO TEM MICHAEL POSEY (cont.)**

cc:

Commissioner/State Controller Betty Yee
Commissioner/Finance Director Michael Cohen
Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer, State Lands Commission
Alexandra Borack, Project Manager, State Lands Commission
Governor Jerry Brown
Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon
Senate President Pro Tem Kevin De Leon
U.S. Representative Dana Rohrabacher
State Senator Patricia Bates
State Senator Tony Mendoza
State Senator John Moorlach
State Senator Josh Newman
State Senator Janet Nguyen
State Assemblyman Travis Allen
State Assemblyman Bill Brough
State Assemblyman Phillip Chen
State Assemblyman Steven Choi
State Assemblyman Tom Daly
State Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva

**RESPONSE TO COMMENT SET E2:
CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH COUNCILMAN AND MAYOR PRO TEM
MICHAEL POSEY**

- E2-1 The commenter's expression of support for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Facility and request for the California State Lands Commission (Commission or CSLC) to certify the Supplemental EIR and approve a lease amendment with Poseidon Water (referred to in this Supplemental EIR as the proposed Lease Modification Project) will be provided to the Commission for consideration in its decision-making process concerning Poseidon's application to amend lease PRC 1980.1. As noted in Part I, *Preface*, and master response MR-1, *Scope of the Commission's Discretionary Action*, the Commission approved the portions of the Huntington Beach Desalination Plant Project within its jurisdiction in October 2010 (i.e., use of the Huntington Beach Generating Station subsea intake and discharge pipelines for desalination operations; see [Item 62](#), October 29, 2010) and its consideration now applies only to Poseidon's proposed modifications to these offshore pipelines.

II.3.3 Comment Set E3: City of Huntington Beach Council Member Patrick Brenden

July 27, 2017

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Chair
California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Ave., Suite 100 South
Sacramento, CA 95825-8202

RE: Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project Supplemental EIR & Land Lease Agreement - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Newsom,

I am writing to express my support for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project and to respectfully request that the State Lands Commission certify the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (DSEIR) and approve the land lease agreement with Poseidon Water at its meeting on October 19, 2017.

I am honored to represent the people of Huntington Beach as a member of the city council. I have also had the pleasure of owning a small business and the privilege of serving as chairman of the Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce. I have had the opportunity to study the project from multiple angles and I believe it is a reasonable and responsible investment to secure a more reliable water future.

The Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project has strong support throughout the city. Residents and businesses not only recognize the need for continued investment in our water resources but also the link that exists between having a reliable water supply and maintaining quality of life, creating jobs, and growing the economy. People are also now more aware of the impact of drought on their lives and the threats that exist to our imported water supplies. Developing a new, locally controlled and drought proof water supply, here in Huntington Beach, makes sense to our residents and to people throughout Orange County, especially when they learn that it can and will be done in an environmentally protective manner.

As a coastal resident, I appreciate the steps that Poseidon Water has taken to make the project even more environmentally protective than it was when the State Lands Commission certified the project EIR seven years ago. The addition of 1mm wedgewire screening on the intake pipeline and a brine diffuser on the outfall will further reduce impacts on marine species and ocean water quality. The DSEIR, itself, includes scientific analysis that says the project will have no significant environmental impact.

Given the project enhancements that have been proposed by Poseidon, the findings of the DSEIR, and the fact that the project EIR was certified by the State Lands Commission in 2010, I would respectfully ask the Commission to certify the DSEIR and approved the land lease with Poseidon Water.

Sincerely,


Patrick Brenden
City Council Member

E3-1

**COMMENT SET E3: CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH COUNCIL MEMBER
PATRICK BRENDEN (cont.)**

cc:

Commissioner/State Controller Betty Yee
Commissioner / Finance Director Michael Cohen
Ms. Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer, State Lands Commission
Alexandra Borack, Project Manager, State Lands Commission
Governor Jerry Brown
Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon
Senate President Pro Tem Kevin De Leon
U.S. Representative Dana Rohrabacher
State Senator Patricia Bates
State Senator Tony Mendoza
State Senator John Moorlach
State Senator Josh Newman
State Senator Janet Nguyen
State Assemblyman Travis Allen
State Assemblyman Bill Brough
State Assemblyman Phillip Chen
State Assemblyman Steven Choi
State Assemblyman Tom Daly
State Assemblyman Matt Harper
State Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva

**RESPONSE TO COMMENT SET E3:
CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH COUNCIL MEMBER PATRICK BRENDEN**

- E3-1 The commenter's expression of support for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project and request for the California State Lands Commission (Commission or CSLC) to certify the Supplemental EIR and approve a lease agreement with Poseidon Water (referred to in this Supplemental EIR as the proposed Lease Modification Project) will be provided to the Commission for consideration in its decision-making process concerning Poseidon's application to amend lease PRC 1980.1. As noted in Part I, *Preface*, and master response MR-1, *Scope of the Commission's Discretionary Action*, the Commission approved the portions of the Huntington Beach Desalination Plant Project within its jurisdiction in October 2010 (i.e., use of the Huntington Beach Generating Station subsea intake and discharge pipelines for desalination operations; see [Item 62](#), October 29, 2010) and its consideration now applies only to Poseidon's proposed modifications to these offshore pipelines.

II.3.4 Comment Set E4: Orange County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman and Supervisor, 2nd District, Michelle Steel



MICHELLE STEEL
CHAIRWOMAN

ORANGE COUNTY HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
333 W. SANTA ANA BLVD., P.O. BOX 687, SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92702-0687
PHONE (714) 834-3220 FAX (714) 834-6109 michelle.steel@ocgov.com

July 24, 2017

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Lieutenant Governor
Chairman, California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Ave., Suite 100 South
Sacramento, CA 95825-8202

RE: Huntington Beach Desalination Project Supplemental EIR – SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Newsom,

I am writing to convey my personal support and that of the Orange County Board of Supervisors for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project. It is our request that the State Lands Commission certify the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) and approve the amended land lease with Poseidon Water when the Commission takes up these items at its meeting on October 19, 2017.

Orange County has taken great strides to expand and diversify its water supply portfolio over the years. We have made wise investments in water conservation, water recycling, and groundwater recharge projects, to name a few. Seawater desalination is now being pursued as a new, drought proof supply that will enhance water reliability and move Orange County toward greater water independence. The County of Orange fully supports this effort.

The addition of seawater desalination to Orange County's water supply portfolio would provide a significant public benefit by producing 56,000 acre-feet of local, potable water each year. The project would help reduce our dependence not only on imported water but also on a conveyance system that could be damaged by a major earthquake. Severe enough damage could disrupt water deliveries to Southern California for an extended period. The impact of such an outage to the region and to Orange County would be catastrophic. Seawater desalination is a local investment in our future water reliability and security.

The Orange County Water District has projected the need for additional water to meet future water demand in the county. Seawater desalination can provide water that would support the county's more than three-million residents and its future economic growth and prosperity. It would also provide the District with a buffer as it manages our groundwater basin through fluctuating hydrologic conditions.

E4-1

**COMMENT SET E4: ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
CHAIRWOMAN AND SUPERVISOR, 2ND DISTRICT, MICHELLE STEEL (cont.)**

In the seven years since the State Lands Commission first certified the EIR for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project, technological improvements have been achieved that make the facility even more operationally efficient and environmentally protective than before. The facility would be able to produce 50 million gallons per day of potable water using 30 percent less sea water. It would feature an energy recovery system that would reduce energy consumption and it would maintain zero net Green House Gas emissions. And the ocean water intake pipeline and the brine disposal outfall would include new safeguards for marine life and water quality.

E4-1
cont.

The Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project is a project that is needed and supported in Orange County. Again, I request that the Commission certifies the SEIR and approve the land lease agreement with Poseidon Water.

Sincerely,



Michelle Steel
Chairwoman, Orange County Board of Supervisors
Supervisor, Second District

cc:

Commissioner/State Controller Betty Yee
Commissioner/Finance Director Michael Cohen
Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer, State Lands Commission
Alexandra Borack, Project Manager, State Lands Commission
Governor Jerry Brown
Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon
Senate President Pro Tem Kevin De Leon
U.S. Representative Dana Rohrabacher
State Senator Patricia Bates
State Senator Tony Mendoza
State Senator John Moorlach
State Senator Josh Newman
State Senator Janet Nguyen
State Assemblyman Travis Allen
State Assemblyman Bill Brough
State Assemblyman Phillip Chen
State Assemblyman Steven Choi
State Assemblyman Tom Daly
State Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva

**RESPONSE TO COMMENT SET E4:
ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAIRWOMAN AND
SUPERVISOR, 2ND DISTRICT, MICHELLE STEEL**

- E4-1 The commenter's expression of support for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project and request for the California State Lands Commission (Commission or CSLC) to certify the Supplemental EIR and approve a lease agreement with Poseidon Water (referred to in this Supplemental EIR as the proposed Lease Modification Project) will be provided to the Commission for consideration in its decision-making process concerning Poseidon's application to amend lease PRC 1980.1. As noted in Part I, *Preface*, and master response MR-1, *Scope of the Commission's Discretionary Action*, the Commission approved the portions of the Huntington Beach Desalination Plant Project within its jurisdiction in October 2010 (i.e., use of the Huntington Beach Generating Station subsea intake and discharge pipelines for desalination operations; see [Item 62](#), October 29, 2010) and its consideration now applies only to Poseidon's proposed modifications to these offshore pipelines.

II.3.5 Comment Set E5: California Assembly, Assemblyman, 72nd District, Travis Allen

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P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0072
(916) 319-2072
FAX (916) 319-2172

DISTRICT OFFICE
17011 BEACH BOULEVARD, SUITE 1120
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92647
(714) 843-4966
FAX (714) 843-6375



COMMITTEES
VICE CHAIR: JOBS, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, AND THE ECONOMY
VICE CHAIR: PUBLIC EMPLOYEES,
RETIREMENT, AND SOCIAL SECURITY
BUDGET
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 4 ON
STATE ADMINISTRATION
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 6 ON
BUDGET PROCESS OVERSIGHT AND
PROGRAM EVALUATION
NATURAL RESOURCES
REVENUE AND TAXATION

July 13, 2017

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Lieutenant Governor/Chair
California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Ave., Suite 100 South
Sacramento, CA 95825-8202

RE: Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project Supplemental EIR & Land Lease Agreement - SUPPORT

Dear Lieutenant Governor Newsom:

I am writing to request that the State Lands Commission (SLC) certify the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project and approve the amended land lease agreement with Poseidon Water, when the Commission takes up these items on October 19, 2017.

In the seven years since the SLC certified the project's Environmental Impact Report and approved a land lease with Poseidon Water, technological enhancements have resulted in design modifications that will make the proposed desalination facility more environmentally protective and operationally efficient. The facility would be able to produce 50 million gallons of potable water each day using 30 percent less ocean water, while the addition of special screening on the intake and a brine diffuser on the outfall would offer greater protection for marine life and better control of salinity levels and water quality, respectively.

The Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project is supported by the City of Huntington Beach, the Orange County Water District and local retail water districts throughout the county, the Orange County Board of Supervisors, members of the Orange County State and Federal Legislative Delegations, Orange County-based community, business and taxpayer organizations, and countless residents, businesses, and others. The depth and diversity of support for the project is based upon a prevailing belief that Orange County should invest in the development of a new, locally-controlled and drought-proof supply of water, in addition to continuing with its water recycling, groundwater recharge, and conservation efforts, among others.

There is also strong support because the development of the facility would generate millions of dollars per year in property tax revenue, hundreds of thousands of dollars per year in sales taxes, several hundred millions of dollars in construction-related economic activity, the creation of

E5-1

COMMENT SET E5: ASSEMBLYMAN, 72ND DISTRICT, TRAVIS ALLEN (cont.)

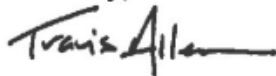
July 13, 2017

Page 2

3,000 construction jobs, and the creation of many direct and indirect full-time jobs once the facility begins operation.

This project offers significant and multiple public benefits to Huntington Beach and all of Orange County and I believe it should continue to be supported by the State Lands Commission through its certification of the SEIR and approval of the amended land lease agreement. There is strong public support in Orange County for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project. Please join us by voting favorably for this project.

Sincerely,



TRAVIS ALLEN
Assemblyman, 72nd District

cc: Commissioner/State Controller Betty Yee
Commissioner/Finance Director Michael Cohen
Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer, State Lands Commission
Alexandra Borack, Project Manager, State Lands Commission
Governor Jerry Brown
Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon
Senate President Pro Tem Kevin De Leon
U.S. Representative Dana Rohrabacher
State Senator Patricia Bates
State Senator Tony Mendoza
State Senator John Moorlach
State Senator Josh Newman
State Senator Janet Nguyen
State Assemblyman Bill Brough
State Assemblyman Phillip Chen
State Assemblyman Steven Choi
State Assemblyman Tom Daly
State Assemblyman Matt Harper
State Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva

E5-1
cont.

**RESPONSE TO COMMENT SET E5:
ASSEMBLYMAN, 72ND DISTRICT, TRAVIS ALLEN**

- E5-1 The commenter's expression of support for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project and request for the California State Lands Commission (Commission or CSLC) to certify the Supplemental EIR and approve a lease agreement with Poseidon Water (referred to in this Supplemental EIR as the proposed Lease Modification Project) will be provided to the Commission for consideration in its decision-making process concerning Poseidon's application to amend lease PRC 1980.1. As noted in Part I, *Preface*, and master response MR-1, *Scope of the Commission's Discretionary Action*, the Commission approved the portions of the Huntington Beach Desalination Plant Project within its jurisdiction in October 2010 (i.e., use of the Huntington Beach Generating Station subsea intake and discharge pipelines for desalination operations; see [Item 62](#), October 29, 2010) and its consideration now applies only to Poseidon's proposed modifications to these offshore pipelines.

II.3.6 Comment Set E6: California Assembly, Assemblymember, 74th District, Matthew Harper

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0074
(916) 319-2074
FAX (916) 319-2174



DISTRICT OFFICE
1503 SOUTH COAST DRIVE, SUITE 205
COSTA MESA, CA 92626
(714) 668-2100
FAX (714) 668-2104

June 23, 2017

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
c/o California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100 South
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Lieutenant-Governor Newsom:

I am writing to you today to express my support for the proposed Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project and to urge the State Lands Commission to certify the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) and approve the amended land-lease agreement with Poseidon Water when it meets in August.

The Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project would provide a significant public benefit and satisfy a need for enhanced water supply reliability for my district and Orange County. The facility would produce 50 million gallons of potable water each day or 56,000 acre-feet of water per year. This new, locally-developed and managed, drought-proof supply of water would benefit the county's more than three million residents, businesses, manufacturing, tourism and hospitality sectors, and more. It would also help reduce the county's demand for imported water, which is not only becoming more expensive, but whose delivery to Southern California could be at risk if a major earthquake ever damaged the aqueduct, storage reservoirs, or other key delivery system infrastructure. Additionally, the Orange County Water District has expressed an interest in adding desalinated water to its water supply portfolio so that it can protect the groundwater basin from the "boom and bust" nature of changing hydrologic patterns.

I appreciate the efforts of the State Lands Commission staff in its preparation of the SEIR, and it is my sincere hope that the Commission certify this document and renew the land-lease agreement with Poseidon Water when it meets in August. Thank you for your consideration and if I can be of any assistance in any way, please don't hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Matthew Harper
Assemblymember, 74th District

E6-1

**RESPONSE TO COMMENT SET E6:
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 74TH DISTRICT, MATTHEW HARPER**

- E6-1 The commenter's expression of support for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project and request for the California State Lands Commission (Commission or CSLC) to certify the Supplemental EIR and approve a lease agreement with Poseidon Water (referred to in this Supplemental EIR as the proposed Lease Modification Project) will be provided to the Commission for consideration in its decision-making process concerning Poseidon's application to amend lease PRC 1980.1. As noted in Part I, *Preface*, and master response MR-1, *Scope of the Commission's Discretionary Action*, the Commission approved the portions of the Huntington Beach Desalination Plant Project within its jurisdiction in October 2010 (i.e., use of the Huntington Beach Generating Station subsea intake and discharge pipelines for desalination operations; see [Item 62](#), October 29, 2010) and its consideration now applies only to Poseidon's proposed modifications to these offshore pipelines.

II.3.7 Comment Set E7: California State Senate, State Senator, 36th District, and Senate Republican Leader, Patricia C. Bates



July 20, 2017

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100 South
Sacramento, California 95825-8202

RE: Support for Huntington Beach Desalination Project Supplemental EIR and Land Lease Approval

Dear Lieutenant Governor Newsom,

As a strong supporter of making Southern California more water independent, I am writing to urge the State Lands Commission to certify at its October 19th meeting the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) and approve the land lease agreement for the proposed Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project.

While I understand the need for the Commission to evaluate proposed changes to the project's design since the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and land lease were approved in 2010, the changes that are the focus of the current SEIR serve to make the project more environmentally protective. The addition of 1 mm wedgewire screening on the new intake pipeline and a brine diffuser on the outfall would be beneficial additions that would help to facilitate a healthy marine ecosystem.

The fact remains that the design, development and operation of the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project would be done with environmental protection and resource conservation at the forefront. This was the case when the State Lands Commission certified the EIR in 2010 and it remains the case as it considers the SEIR and land lease amendment in 2017. No changes have been proposed that would warrant anything but certification of the SEIR and approval of the land lease agreement.

Further, when the Commission certified the project EIR in 2010, it found that use of ocean water and public lands for the purpose of providing a safe, clean drinking water supply complied with the spirit and intent of the Common Law doctrine of the Public Trust.

Water reliability remains critically important to Orange County. The proposed seawater desalination project represents a new, locally developed and managed supply that would benefit the county's three million residents, support its economy and environment, and help maintain its quality of life. The ability to locally produce 50 million gallons per day of potable water will help Orange County remain strong should it ever experience disruptions to its traditional water supplies.

E7-1

**COMMENT SET E7: STATE SENATOR, 36TH DISTRICT, AND SENATE
REPUBLICAN LEADER, PATRICIA BATES (cont.)**

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
July 20, 2017
Page two

I respectfully urge the State Lands Commission to ratify the SEIR and approve the proposed land lease amendment with Poseidon Water.

Sincerely,



PATRICIA C. BATES
Senate Republican Leader
California State Senate, 36th District

cc:

Commissioner/State Controller Betty Yee
Commissioner/Finance Director Michael Cohen
Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer, State Lands Commission
Alexandra Borack, Project Manager, State Lands Commission
Governor Jerry Brown
Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon
Senate President Pro Tem Kevin De Leon
U.S. Representative Dana Rohrabacher
State Senator Tony Mendoza
State Senator John Moorlach
State Senator Josh Newman
State Senator Janet Nguyen
State Assemblyman Travis Allen
State Assemblyman Bill Brough
State Assemblyman Phillip Chen
State Assemblyman Steven Choi
State Assemblyman Tom Daly
State Assemblyman Matt Harper
State Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva

E7-1
cont.

**RESPONSE TO COMMENT SET E7:
STATE SENATOR, 36TH DISTRICT, AND SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER,
PATRICIA BATES**

- E7-1 The commenter's expression of support for making Southern California more water independent and for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project and request for the California State Lands Commission (Commission or CSLC) to certify the Supplemental EIR and approve a lease agreement with Poseidon Water (referred to in this Supplemental EIR as the proposed Lease Modification Project) will be provided to the Commission for consideration in its decision-making process concerning Poseidon's application to amend lease PRC 1980.1. As noted in Part I, *Preface*, and master response MR-1, *Scope of the Commission's Discretionary Action*, the Commission approved the portions of the Huntington Beach Desalination Plant Project within its jurisdiction in October 2010 (i.e., use of the Huntington Beach Generating Station subsea intake and discharge pipelines for desalination operations; see [Item 62](#), October 29, 2010) and its consideration now applies only to Poseidon's proposed modifications to these offshore pipelines.

II.3.8 Comment Set E8: California State Senate, State Senator, 37th District, John M.W. Moorlach

CAPITOL OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 651-4037

DISTRICT OFFICE
940 SOUTH COAST DR.
SUITE 185
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(714) 662-6050

California State Senate



SENATOR
JOHN M. W. MOORLACH
THIRTY-SEVENTH SENATE DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
JUDICIARY
VICE CHAIR
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW
GOVERNANCE & FINANCE

June 30, 2017

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Chair
California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Ave., Suite 100 South
Sacramento, CA 95825-8202

RE: Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project Supplemental EIR & Land Lease Agreement - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Newsom,

I am requesting that the State Lands Commission certify the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project and approve the land lease agreement with Poseidon Water when this item comes before it on August 17, 2017.

The Commission previously certified the project Environmental Impact Report in 2010 along with a land lease agreement. The project design modifications that were studied for the current SEIR, including the 1mm wedgewire screening on the intake and a brine diffuser on the outfall, will provide greater coastal protection and is environmentally superior to what was proposed and then certified by the Commission almost seven years ago.

Orange County has been working for some time toward greater water reliability and sustainability with investments in recycling, groundwater recharge, conservation, storm water capture, and other projects. The addition of seawater desalination to the local water supply portfolio would provide a significant new public benefit that would further enhance local reliability. It would provide 50 million gallons per day of high-quality, drought-proof potable water that would support Orange County's 3.1 million residents and the business, manufacturing, tourism and hospitality sectors, among others, that help generate jobs and revenue that keeps the economy strong.

I support Poseidon Water's efforts to make seawater desalination a component in the overall water portfolio of Orange County's future. I believe it will prove to be a prudent financial investment as we deal with imported water costs, competition for that water, and seismic risks to our state water system that all continue to rise. I encourage the State Lands Commission to certify the SEIR and approve the land lease with Poseidon Water to facilitate this necessary project moving forward.

E8-1

COMMENT SET E8: STATE SENATOR, 37TH DISTRICT, JOHN MOORLACH (cont.)

Sincerely,



John M.W. Moorlach
State Senator, 37th District

cc:

Commissioner/State Controller Betty Yee
Commissioner/Finance Director Michael Cohen
Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer, State Lands Commission
Alexandra Borack, Project Manager, State Lands Commission
Governor Jerry Brown
Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon
Senate President Pro Tem Kevin De Leon
U.S. Representative Dana Rohrabacher
State Senator Patricia Bates
State Senator Tony Mendoza
State Senator John Moorlach
State Senator Josh Newman
State Senator Janet Nguyen
State Assemblyman Travis Allen
State Assemblyman Bill Brough
State Assemblyman Phillip Chen
State Assemblyman Steven Choi
State Assemblyman Tom Daly
State Assemblyman Matt Harper
State Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva

**RESPONSE TO COMMENT SET E8:
STATE SENATOR, 37TH DISTRICT, JOHN M.W. MOORLACH**

- E8-1 The commenter's expression of support for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project and request for the California State Lands Commission (Commission or CSLC) to certify the Supplemental EIR and approve a lease agreement with Poseidon Water (referred to in this Supplemental EIR as the proposed Lease Modification Project) will be provided to the Commission for consideration in its decision-making process concerning Poseidon's application to amend lease PRC 1980.1. As noted in Part I, *Preface*, and master response MR-1, *Scope of the Commission's Discretionary Action*, the Commission approved the portions of the Huntington Beach Desalination Plant Project within its jurisdiction in October 2010 (i.e., use of the Huntington Beach Generating Station subsea intake and discharge pipelines for desalination operations; see [Item 62](#), October 29, 2010) and its consideration now applies only to Poseidon's proposed modifications to these offshore pipelines.

II.3.9 Comment Set E9: U.S. Congress, 48th Congressional District-CA, Dana Rohrabacher, MC

DANA ROHRABACHER
48th District, California

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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

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Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats
Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific
SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY
Subcommittee on Space
Subcommittee on Energy
Subcommittee on Environment

July 25, 2017

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Lieutenant Governor
Chairman, California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Ave., Suite 100 South
Sacramento, CA 95825-8202

RE: Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project Supplemental EIR - SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Newsom,

I represent the 48th Congressional District which includes the cities of Huntington Beach, Seal Beach, Sunset Beach, Surfside, Corona del Mar, Costa Mesa, Laguna Beach, Aliso Viejo, Newport Coast, Newport Beach, Laguna Niguel, Fountain Valley as well as portions of Midway City, Westminster, Santa Ana and Garden Grove. Some of my constituents live in communities located above the Orange County groundwater basin and have access to groundwater. Others live in communities that are almost entirely dependent on imported water from Northern California and the Colorado River. What they share, in common is the need for greater local water supply reliability and reduced dependence on imported water.

The State Lands Commission will consider approval of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination project as well as an amended land lease at a meeting on October 19, 2017. I encourage the Commission's favorable votes on both items in order that this project may progress through the approval process.

Poseidon Water's seawater desalination facility in Carlsbad has been operational for the past 18 months providing high-quality potable water for the people of San Diego County. The Huntington Beach facility would function in a similar manner to its sister facility in Carlsbad. Furthermore, its operation promises to be environmentally protective and efficient. I am informed that steps proposed by Poseidon will reduce the impingement and entrainment threats to fish, eggs and larvae on the intake pipe and will control salinity levels as brine is discharged through the outfall.

Water consumers throughout Orange County will benefit from production of 50 million gallons per day of potable water produced locally by the Huntington Beach project. I respectfully request that the State Lands Commission gives the project its full and fair consideration at its meeting on October 19, 2017.

Yours sincerely,

Dana Rohrabacher, MC
48th Congressional District-CA

E9-1

**RESPONSE TO COMMENT SET E9:
U.S. CONGRESS, 48TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT-CA, DANA ROHRABACHER**

- E9-1 The commenter's comments regarding the need for local water supply reliability and reduced dependence on imported water the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Project and request for favorable votes on the Supplemental EIR and lease agreement with Poseidon Water (referred to in this Supplemental EIR as the proposed Lease Modification Project) will be provided to the California State Lands Commission (Commission or CSLC) for consideration in its decision-making process concerning Poseidon's application to amend lease PRC 1980.1. As noted in Part I, *Preface*, and master response MR-1, *Scope of the Commission's Discretionary Action*, the Commission approved the portions of the Huntington Beach Desalination Plant Project within its jurisdiction in October 2010 (i.e., use of the Huntington Beach Generating Station subsea intake and discharge pipelines for desalination operations; see [Item 62](#), October 29, 2010) and its consideration now applies only to Poseidon's proposed modifications to these offshore pipelines.